

October 11, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Powell,

I am writing to oppose any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

There is no reason at this early stage of DTV's adoption to hamstring the products based on the speculative concerns of a narrow group of stakeholders, at the cost of the public interest and all other stakeholders, who will be concretely harmed if the broadcast flag is adopted.

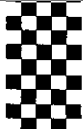
More fundamentally, allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This is absolutely backwards.

If, after DTV is rolled out, the studios can establish widespread harm as a result of piracy of non-flagged material, then they can (a) pursue judicial remedies for that harm; and (b) lobby Congress for new ways to protect them from harm. Do not allow them to sidestep both of these remedies -- remedies which allow for the balancing of the studios' interests with other interests (including the public good).

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Gregory Kilgusorn
683 Castro St
San Francisco, CA 94114
USA



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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Joseph C. Pianta
121 Tillotson Circle
Pittsburgh, PA 15237
USA



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Sincerely,

Seth Green
1415 Chapin St. NW #102
Washington, DC 20009
USA

* * * JOURNAL (OCT. 11. 2003 10:38PM) * * *

TTI CHAIRMAN POWELL

< TRANSMISSION >

DATE	TIME	ADDRESS	MODE	TIME	PAGE	RESULT	PERSONAL NAME	FILE
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< RECEPTION >

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TX 003815


: BATCH
M : MEMORY TX
S : STANDARD
!\$: REMOTE TRANSFER
+ : ROUTING

C : CONFIDENTIAL
L : SEND LATER
O : DETAIL
B : FAX ON DEMAND

RX 029984

\$: TRANSFER
@ : FORWARDING
F : FINE
* : PC

P : POLLING
E : ECM
> : REDUCTION
% : PC DIRECT



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Sincerely,

Torin Monahan
7327 E. Palm Lane
Scottsdale, AZ 85257
USA

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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Shawn Garbett
4037 General Bate Drive
Nashville, TN 37204
USA



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Washington, D.C. 20554

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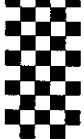
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Sincerely,

Jonathan Markowitz
3775 Street Road
P.O. Box 656
Lahaska, PA 18931
USA



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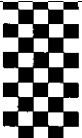
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Sincerely,

Joshua Dix
106 Leslie Rd.
Monroeville, PA 15146
USA



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Sincerely,

Peter Bessman
248 Hereford Court
Millersville, MD 21108
USA



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Sincerely,

Shane Celis
5874 Southwind Dr
San Jose, CA 95138
USA



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Sincerely,

Jared Perez
195 Claremont Ave. #20
New York, NY 10027
USA



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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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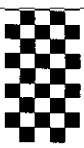
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Sincerely,

James Adams
2969 7th St.
Boulder, CO 80304
USA



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Sincerely,

Mercedes Lackey
16525 E 470 Rd
Claremore, OK 74017
USA



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445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Ole M. Olsen
Båstadlundveien 23
Halden, N-1781
Norway



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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

David Fry
4001 NW 122nd Street
Apt. 628
Oklahoma City, OK 73120
USA

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

John Klopp
541 Grand Royal Cir
Winter Garden, FL 34787
USA



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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Toshi Clark
5418 Ridgeview Dr NE
Moses Lake, WA 98837
USA



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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

brian moore
226 Maple Ave
Smithtown, NY 11787
USA



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Sincerely,

Eric Weast
585 Jefferson Dr. Unit 107
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442
USA



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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Gary Webber
Box 8
43 S. Frontage Rd. W.
Alberton, MT 59820
USA



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Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Marco Doughty
112 B Fillmore St.
Pawtucket, RI 02860
USA



October 11, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Powell,

I am largely confused by the Federal Communications Commission's pending foray into copyright enforcement. The broadcast flag cannot be construed, at any level, as being pro-consumer or in any way of benefit to the average user of broadcast material. It also belies any true understanding of market forces, and the history of content distribution technologies. I hope you will see your way to eliminating this threat to consumer rights and allowing the individual viewer to decide what he or she is willing to accept.

Since the advent of recordable media, the public has roundly REJECTED any form of copy protection. This applies to both entertainment and computer software, which are often distributed using the same technology. The problem with copy protection is this: any system that provides a level of control sufficient to satisfy the RIAA, MPAA and their ilk, invariably causes too many problems for legitimate consumers, who frequently perceive such "protection" as an equipment malfunction. Please keep firmly in mind that these are the very people that the content producers are counting on to buy their products! This is a Catch-22 that cannot be solved by a simple mandate.

Legitimate consumers bitterly resent this presumption of criminality, and the loss of control over their own property. That is why computer software is rarely copy protected anymore: the software vendors have found that such protection LOSES CUSTOMERS! Witness the recent formal apology from Intuit, Inc. over the product activation requirements of their TurboTax software. I am not alone in telling you this: the first time my digital video recorder tries to tell me that I can't make a copy of a movie to watch on the VCR in my bedroom, I will return that useless machine and get my money back. Either that, or I will find a way to copy it anyway. Current copyright law still grants me the right to do so, if I can, and as a software engineer with twenty years experience, there's a good chance that I will.


In spite of what the media companies may have told you, the VAST majority of consumers purchase their products legally and honestly. That is why those very same companies have been able to stay in the black for as long as they have. Luddites all, they are once again crying "foul", as they did with the audio cassette, the video cassette and the recordable CD. I might add that, when the legal system and the courts refused to grant them the power to destroy those technologies, they actually managed to use them to turn a profit.

Please ... do not grant a major cartel such as the MPAA the power to kill a potentially valuable technology like HDTV. Give the market a chance to accept HDTV before you risk the inevitable consumer backlash. Remember that the content companies and their representative organizations would be perfectly happy to see HDTV fail miserably, if it would maintain their current business structure and profit margins. They see absolutely no benefit to an improved television system, unless they can completely control and monopolize it to further their own ends.

After all, where is it written that the Federal Government should guarantee any organization or business a neverending revenue stream? Allow them to compete for their market share just like every other corporation must. And if HDTV fails on the first go-round ... so be it. The free market will have spoken.

Sincerely,

James Karaganis
225 Prairie Ave
Highwood, IL 60040
USA



October 11, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Michael Powell,

I am writing to voice my opposition to any FCC-mandated adoption of "broadcast flag" technology for digital television. As a consumer and citizen, I feel strongly that such a policy would be bad for innovation, consumer rights, and the ultimate adoption of DTV.

A robust, competitive market for consumer electronics must be rooted in manufacturers' ability to innovate for their customers. Allowing movie studios to veto features of DTV-reception equipment will enable the studios to tell technologists what new products they can create. This will result in products that don't necessarily reflect what consumers like me actually want, and it could result in me being charged more money for inferior functionality.

If the FCC issues a broadcast flag mandate, I would actually be less likely to make an investment in DTV-capable receivers and other equipment. I will not pay more for devices that limit my rights at the behest of Hollywood. Please do not mandate broadcast flag technology for digital television. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Timothy Talbert
1807 Ellis Rd NW Apt 3
Cedar Rapids, IA 52405
USA

October 11, 2003

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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Trevor Roy
218 N Plum St
Lancaster, PA 17602
USA



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Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Sincerely,

Patrick McFarland
298 State Street
APT #9
Ellsworth, ME 04605
USA